I have not been able to query Fr. Wagener further about his method, but I would now be the last to deny the possibility that somewhere an entomologist might still be using the ancient pincushion in the field, as well as the established nineteenth-century method of killing insects by injection with tobacco juice. I am grateful to Dr. Klots for permission to quote from his letter, and a print from his transparency has been provided to the Editor of the *Record.* — Dr. RONALD S. WILKINSON, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540; The American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York 10024.

A POSSIBLE NATURAL HYBRID BETWEEN NUDAURELIA ZAMBESINA WLK. x N. SAID OB. — Reverting to my previous note under this heading (1977, *Ent. Rec.,* **89**: 42), in August 1976 I found a large batch of newly hatched larvae, similar to those described, on an Oleander in my garden. The larvae were left to feed up *in situ* and, when they were fully fed and starting to wander in search of pupating sites, some 15 or 16 were collected and placed in a large trough of soil to pupate.

Emergence was most protracted (I still have one living pupa) and erratic, never a pair emerging on the same day, and all the early imagines were typical *zambesina* in appearance. However, on 17.iii.77 a female emerged that lacked the dark crimson basal patches, although the ground colour was the silvery green of *zambesina.* She was placed in a large assembling cage and exposed for three nights, during which time she attracted many males, all typical *zambesina.* Then, on the morning after the third night, she was allowed to pair with one of the assembled males, as it was feared that if pairing was further delayed she might start laying unfertilized eggs. The pair remained *in cop* for the best part of 24 hours and appeared to have considerable difficulty in separating. The female then laid a large batch of eggs, that proved to be infertile, and died.

It would seem, therefore, as is so often the case, that whilst the original interspecific cross is fertile, the back-cross parent species x hybrid is not. — D. G. SEVASTOPULO, F.R.E.S., P.O. Box 95026, Mombasa, Kenya.

DEILEPHILA ELPENOR L. ON THE ISLE OF CANNA. — On the morning of 25th June I found a perfect specimen of the Elephant Hawk Moth in my mercury vapour trap, the first time the species has been found here. It seems to be spreading in north-west Scotland, as last year a caterpillar was found at Morar, and I am told that a specimen of the moth was found at Mallaig this summer. My friend Mr. Peter Wormell of the Nature Conservancy tells me that the moth was common in Argyllshire last year and is turning up again this one. The capture came at the end of ten days of perfect weather. Since the middle of May we have had two such spells, interspersed with a number of days with cold dry northerly winds. Nothing

else unusual has turned up, but for the first time a spring brood — just two or three — of *P. aegeria* has been noticed here. *B. selene* and *C. rubi* have been noticed again for the first time for two or three years; but there has been no sign so far of the usual migrants. — J. L. CAMPBELL, Isle of Canna, Hebrides.

THE MARSH OBLIQUE-BARRED: HYPENODES TURFOSALIS (WOCKE) (LEP.: NOCTUIDAE) IN KENT. — While on a visit to Hothfield Bog near Ashford on the 12th July, 1977, I netted a small female noctuoid in fresh condition, which turned out to be the local *Hypenodes turfosalis*. This species has a wide range in Britain, but to my knowledge has never before been noted in Kent. — J. M. CHALMERS-HUNT.

Current Literature

The Forth Naturalist and Historian, Vol. 1, 1976. Central Regional Council, Stirling. 176 pp., £1.00.

The preface points out that the Transactions of the Stirling Natural History and Archeological Society ceased publication on the outbreak of the second world war, and with the exception of the Survey, edited by Professor Timms in 1974 for the visit of the British Association to Stirling University, virtually nothing has been published since 1939, although this part of Scotland contains much of interest.

The volume contains ten papers; five on ornithological subjects, one on entomology ("Our 'Disappearing' Butterflies")[1] and one each concerning agriculture, geology, botany and local history. The editor points out that the bias towards ornithology results from the popularity of that science, but is not a matter of principle, and that all papers of interest are welcome.

The editorial panel has its roots in Stirling University, but is not confined to that institution. The articles are well illustrated, although financial restrictions at present rule out the use of more refined production methods. However, it will be remembered that the *Entomologist's Gazette* commenced publication with offset typescript, but was soon able to improve its style, and we wish the present publication equal prosperity, for in spite of the solitary entomological article in the present issue, my correspondent tells me that there will be at least one such article in future volumes "even if he has to write it himself"! The other articles, however, cannot fail to be of interest to all intelligent readers. — S.N.A.J.

[1] George Thomson's contribution (pp. 89-103) is specially interesting for a brief account of the history and changes in distribution of the butterflies of Scotland. — J.M.C.-H.